

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

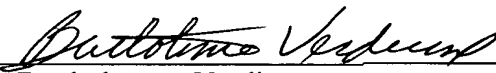
Claims 1-26 have been amended to replace the phrase "characterized in that" with "wherein" to provide proper antecedent basis for terms recited therein and thereby conform to U.S. practice. Claims 3-11, 13, 15 and 17 have been amended to depend solely on Claim 1, Claim 14 has been amended to depend solely on Claim 11, and Claims 20-22 and 24-26 have been amended to depend solely on Claim 17, thereby eliminating any multiple dependencies and more clearly defining the Applicants' invention. In addition, the element numbers or lettering have been removed from Claims 1-5 and 7-26 in accordance with U.S. practice. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is introduced by these amendments, and requests entry thereof prior to examination on the merits.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4791-4012. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
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